

*Tackling the problems
others dribble around.*

The Un-official Beginners Guide to The
**History Of The Australian
National Soccer League**

Foreword

Long before I became a commentator statistical information held a fascination for me. I could pick up a book with the intention of just flipping through the pages and end up losing track of time poring through games, goals and players.

It's more than just the data, it's the memories that are stirred up. Goals are replayed in the mind, and the emotion of the occasion rekindled. As you read The Un-official Beginners Guide To The History Of The Australian National Soccer League you will relive many of the great moments in Australian soccer. Moments that you had long forgotten. It will invoke discussion, arguments and laughter and that's exactly what it is designed to do.

Fans of soccer in Australia are starved of information about the local scene due to mainstream media's lack of foresight. No wonder then that its taken the endeavour of a group of FANS to produce such a bible for the rest of us to enjoy. Because it's written by fans, for fans, there's an understanding of what we need in a publication like this to quench our thirst for football - from the league ladders to the 'Did You Know?'s there is a priceless gem for everyone.

The arduous task of keeping statistics is one that I am very familiar with. And, as such, I can appreciate the monumental effort required to produce such a book. Studs Up are to be congratulated and more importantly thanked profusely for this contribution to Australian soccer.

Enjoy it. Enjoy the surprises, the humour and the memories of the game we all love.

PAUL WILLIAMS
May 1999.

And a paragraph (or two) from the editor....

The statistics used in this guide have been obtained from a wide variety of sources. In many cases the information is general knowledge, to be found in any newspaper in any library, but there are some sources that should be acknowledged. In particular we would like to acknowledge all the journalists who contributed to the numerous official and commercial publications that have surfaced over the past three decades. All works have been invaluable when it comes to double and triple checking the most obvious facts. In addition, the measures of assistance provided by Andrew Howe, Greg Stock and Damian Smith should not be underestimated.

In any 'History of...' there is certain to be the odd typo or two. Despite checking and re-checking we can never be certain. There will always be arguments anyway, but in producing this guide we feel proud to say at least we started the argument.

Enjoy!
Kevin Christopher and the Studs Up team, who can be contacted at:
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1977

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Eastern Suburbs Hakoah	26	13	11	2	52	28	37
Marconi	26	15	7	4	42	21	37
Fitzroy Utd Alexander	26	12	8	6	41	34	32
Adelaide City Juventus	26	12	7	7	50	31	31
Western Suburbs	26	11	7	8	38	29	29
St George Budapest	26	7	14	5	39	35	28
West Adelaide Hellas	26	8	10	8	38	32	26
Footscray JUST	26	9	6	11	36	39	24
Brisbane Lions	26	9	5	12	27	41	23
Brisbane City	26	8	6	12	30	35	22
South Melbourne Hellas	26	7	8	11	27	35	22
Sydney Olympic	26	7	7	12	25	38	21
Canberra Arrows	26	5	7	14	22	39	17
Mooroolbark (relegated)	26	5	5	16	31	61	15

NO FINAL SERIES PLAYED

IN THE BEGINNING.....

....there were state leagues. And the fact that a national league kicked off at all is a credit to the administrators of the time, yet the inaugural season was far removed from what the game's leaders had originally envisaged. The agreement reached in 1975 to exclude ethnic or nationalistic names disappeared pretty quickly, as did the concept of transparent promotion and relegation rules. Nevertheless, all that was forgotten when the league got underway on April 2, 1977, with Sydney clubs Eastern Suburbs Hakoah, Marconi and St George all expecting to finish in the top three.

That optimism was in short supply elsewhere, with Bruce Waddell, editor of the day at the legendary Queensland publication 'Go Soccer', suggesting "This inaugural season should be one of consolidation for the Brisbane teams, and aiming at just avoiding finishing in last place in the League, should not be regarded as too pessimistic a view."

Gooooaaaall!!!!!!

The first goal in the National Soccer League was scored by West Adelaide's John Kosmina. Eight years later he became the first player to score 100 NSL goals, and eventually went on to hold the all-time national league scoring record.

Six players scored hat-tricks during the inaugural league season, but John (Dixie) Deans was the only player to score four goals in the same game. (Yep, against Mooroolbark!)

Leading Goalscorers

John DEANS	'Adelaide City'	16
Terry SMITH	'Eastern Suburbs'	14
Murray BARNES	'Eastern Suburbs'	12
John KOSMINA	'West Adelaide'	12
Gary COLE	'Heidelberg'	11
Geoff MORRIS	'Brisbane Lions'	10
Branko BULJEVIC	'Fitzroy United'	9
John NYSKOHUS	'Adelaide City'	9
Peter SHARNE	'Marconi'	9
Neville MORGAN	'St George'	8
Graham NORRIS	'Western Suburbs'	8
Phil O'CONNOR	'St George'	8
Mendo RISTOVSKI	'Footscray JUST'	8

Did You Know?

Newcastle United and Arsenal star Malcolm MacDonald "guested" for South Melbourne for three games. The club insured him for \$500,000. South Melbourne asked the three clubs that would face the SuperMac, each chip in to help pay the insurance premium of \$2000.

It's a Record!

Adelaide City defeated Mooroolbark 10-3. They remain the only team to reach double-figures in a league match.

Did You Know?

Mooroolbark may have finished on the bottom, but they went out in style, winning their final match 4-1 in Canberra, their best result of the season!

1978

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Adelaide Hellas	26	16	4	6	42	27	36
Eastern Suburbs - Hakoah	26	15	5	6	49	27	35
South Melbourne Hellas	26	12	8	6	45	30	32
Marconi	26	12	6	8	46	31	30
Fitzroy Utd Alexander	26	9	8	9	39	39	26
Brisbane Lions	26	8	10	8	37	39	26
St George Budapest	26	11	3	12	41	40	25
Sydney Olympic	26	9	7	10	35	43	25
Western Suburbs (relegated)	26	9	6	11	41	45	24
Adelaide City Juventus	26	9	6	11	38	44	24
*Newcastle KB United	26	6	10	10	33	40	22
Footscray JUST	26	7	8	11	29	37	22
Canberra City	26	5	10	11	28	41	20
Brisbane City	26	7	3	16	29	49	17

Top Four Finals Series

Minor Semi Final
 South Melbourne 2 Duncan Cummings 41, Alun Evans 55
 Marconi 3 Barry Jones 1, Peter Sharne 8
 Peter Ollerton 44

Major Semi Final
 West Adelaide 2 Barry Reynolds 12
 George Koulianios 14
 Hakoah 3 Ian Souness 20, Murray Barnes 55
 Ernie Campbell 117
 (after extra time)

Preliminary Final (at Marconi)
 Marconi 2 Berti Mariani 61, Peter Sharne 81
 West Adelaide 0

Grand Final
 Hakoah 4 Terry Smith 25, Joe Watson 38
 Mark Treter 41, Ernie Campbell 44
 Marconi 2 Peter Ollerton 23, Roberto Vieri 60
 Attendance:- Approx 10,000

Goooooaaall!!!!!!

The Marconi players caused a sensation in the Preliminary Final when, with the score at 0-0, they took nearly two minutes to decide who would take a 60th minute penalty, awarded after Peter Sharne was fouled. Future Marconi coach Roberto Vieri was eventually persuaded to step up, and although his shot was saved by Martin Crook, another future Marconi coach, Berti Mariani was on hand to convert the rebound.

What's In a Name?

During the close season Eastern Suburbs Hakoah changed their name to Sydney City and Fitzroy United Alexander changed their name to Heidelberg United.

Leading Goalscorers	
Ken BODEN	14
'Newcastle'	
Clive EATON	13
'Western Suburbs'	
Phil O'CONNOR	12
'St George'	
Jim CAMPBELL	12
'Fitzroy United'	
Gary COLE	11
'Fitzroy United'	
Roberto VIERI	11
'Marconi'	
Alan HUGHES	11
'Brisbane Lions'	
Duncan CUMMINGS	10
'South Melbourne'	
Allan FISHER	10
'Western Suburbs'	

1979

	P	W	D	L	#	F	A	Pts
Marconi	26	15	6	5	4	58	32	40
Heidelberg United	26	14	7	5	1	44	30	36
Sydney City	26	15	3	8	1	47	29	34
Brisbane City	26	14	5	7	1	38	30	34
Adelaide City	26	13	6	7	1	43	27	33
Newcastle KB United	26	11	9	6	1	43	30	32
West Adelaide	26	10	4	12	1	28	31	25
'Leichhardt	26	11	3	12	0	29	37	25
Brisbane Lions	26	8	6	12	0	28	40	22
Footscray JUST	26	8	3	15	1	29	43	20
St George Budapest	26	7	6	13	0	27	43	20
Canberra City	26	6	8	12	0	25	41	20
Sydney Olympic (relegated)	26	7	5	14	0	23	30	19
South Melbourne Hellas	26	6	3	17	1	26	45	16

* Bonus point awarded for scoring four or more goals in a match.

Leading Goalscorers	
Mark JANKOVICS	18
'Marconi'	
Eddie KRNEVIC	13
'Marconi'	
Ken BODEN	12
'Newcastle'	
Kevin LOW	11
'Brisbane City'	
Tony BRENNAN	10
'Brisbane Lions'	
Gary COLE	10
'Heidelberg'	
Jamie PATON	10
'Heidelberg'	
Peter SHARNE	10
'Marconi'	
Terry SMITH	10
'Sydney City'	

Top Four Finals Series
 (played under a round robin format)...Top two qualify for the Grand Final.

Top Four Finals Series		
(played under a round robin format)...Top two qualify for the Grand Final.		
1st Round		
Marconi 2	Gary Byrne 2 pen	Brisbane City 2
	Tony Henderson 58	Sydney City 0
Heidelberg 1	Gary Cole 25	

2nd Round		
Brisbane City 2	Bobby Campbell 38	Heidelberg 1
	Kevin Low 72	Sydney City 3
Marconi 1	Mark Jankovics 58	

3rd Round		
Heidelberg 6	Branko Buljevic 35	Marconi 0
	Gary Cole 55, 57, 67	Sydney City 1
	Andy Bozikas 61, 71	Murray Barnes 75
Brisbane City 2	Barry Kelso 65	
	Bobby Campbell 70	

Final Table

	Pts	G.D.
Sydney City	4	4 - 3
Brisbane City	4	6 - 7
Heidelberg	2	8 - 7
Marconi	2	3 - 4

Did You Know?		
It was a major surprise when APIA, (Associazione Polisportiva Italo-Australia) decided not to join the NSL back in 1977.		
Having won a string of state titles in the 60's and 70's, they were left lamenting their lack of vision until the end of the 1978 season, when they merged with Western Suburbs.		

Grand Final		
1st leg (in Sydney)		
Sydney City 1	Marcos Silva 76	Brisbane City 1
Brisbane City 0		Sydney City 1

Barry Kelso 78
 Mark Treter 84
 Sydney City won 2-1 on aggregate.

1980

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney City	26	16	5	5	51	26	37
Heidelberg United	26	15	6	5	55	33	36
South Melbourne Hellas	26	15	5	6	42	21	35
Marconi Fairfield	26	14	6	6	53	32	34
Adelaide City	26	13	4	9	40	27	30
Newcastle KB United	26	12	6	8	32	31	30
Brisbane Lions	26	7	11	8	28	32	25
Leichhardt	26	8	7	11	27	35	23
Footscray	26	7	9	10	32	41	23
Canberra City	26	7	7	12	34	33	21
*Blacktown City	26	9	3	14	34	55	21
Brisbane City	26	4	10	12	29	36	18
West Adelaide	26	7	3	16	24	46	17
St George Budapest (relegated)	26	5	4	17	32	65	14

Top Four Finals Series

Minor Semi Final - Oct 12 (in Melbourne)		
South Melbourne	4	Alun Evans 50, 81
		Branko Buljevic 79
		Arthur Xanthopoulos 74
Marconi	3	Peter Sharne 10
		Gary Byrne 20
		Eddie Krncevic 40

Major Semi Final - Oct 12 (in Sydney)		
Sydney City	2	Mark Trenter 35
		Ken Boden 39
Heidelberg	0	

Preliminary Final - Oct 18 (in Melbourne)		
Heidelberg	4	Jamie Paton 52, 84
		Gary Cole 67
		Andy Bozikas 76
South Melbourne	1	Branko Buljevic 7

Grand Final - Oct 26 (in Canberra)		
Heidelberg	4	Gary Cole 33, 43, 77
		Jamie Paton 90
Sydney City	0	

Did You Know?

Blacktown won their first ever NSL fixture, but got fixed up good and proper in round two - going down 0-9 to Marconi. They gained their revenge later in the season though, beating Marconi 5-1.

Did You Know?

1980 was the only season not to feature Sydney Olympic, but their relegation to the NSW State League resulted in an increase in their average attendance!

Leading Goalscorers

Gary COLE 'Heidelberg'	21
Mark JANKOVICS 'Marconi'	16
Jamie PATON 'Heidelberg'	15
Ken BODEN 'Sydney City'	13
Eddie KRNCHEVIC 'Marconi'	13
John NYSKOHUS 'Adelaide City'	12
Dennis DUARTE 'St George'	11
Murray BARNES 'Sydney City'	10
Branko BULJEVIC 'South Melbourne'	10
Phil O'CONNOR 'APIA Leichhardt'	10
Colin BARNES 'Adelaide City'	9
Barry KELSO 'Brisbane City'	9

Gooooaaaall!!!!!!

In a season where he truly re-wrote the record books, notching three hat-tricks in the space of five matches and a GF hat-trick to boot, Gary Cole became the first NSL player to reach fifty career goals.

On the Merry-Go-Round....

Brisbane City became the first NSL club to employ four coaches in one season. The 'lucky' four were Nereo Saftich, Steve Perry, Julius Vincze and George Potter.

1981

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney City	30	19	5	6	57	28	43
South Melbourne	30	13	13	4	41	27	39
Brisbane City	30	12	11	7	37	25	35
Leichhardt	30	12	11	7	39	33	35
Canberra City	30	13	7	10	41	32	33
Brisbane Lions	30	11	11	8	41	32	33
Adelaide City	30	13	6	11	44	42	32
Heidelberg	30	12	7	11	49	39	31
*Sydney Olympic	30	11	9	10	46	44	31
Newcastle	30	11	8	11	41	41	30
"Wollongong	30	8	12	10	35	39	28
*Preston	30	9	7	14	38	42	25
Footscray	30	9	7	14	32	48	25
Marconi	30	9	7	14	23	45	25
Blacktown City (relegated)	30	6	9	15	32	47	21
West Adelaide	30	5	4	21	25	57	14

NO FINAL SERIES PLAYED

Did You Know?

Wollongong's president in their first NSL season was the Speaker in the NSW Parliament, Laurie Kelly.

What's in a Name?

The NSL has always had an image problem, hence the numerous attempts down the years to compel clubs to change their names and logos. The early eighties provided many such attempt, with varying results. Just part of the list includes:

- Sydney City Slickers
- South Melbourne Gunners
- Preston Rams
- Adelaide City Giants
- Sydney Olympians
- Brisbane City Gladiators
- Canberra Arrows
- Footscray Eagles
- Leichhardt Strikers
- Marconi Leopards
- Newcastle KB Raiders
- West Adelaide Hawks

Leading Goalscorers

Gary COLE 'Heidelberg'	16
Alun EVANS 'South Melbourne'	14
Ken BODEN 'Sydney City'	12
Marshall SOPER 'APIA Leichhardt'	12
Ian SOUNESS 'Sydney City'	11
Paul WILKINSON 'Brisbane City'	12
Murray BARNES 'Sydney City'	11
John KOSMINA 'Sydney City'	11
Mark KOUSSAS 'Sydney Olympic'	11
Billy WILLIAMSON 'Brisbane Lions'	10
David MITCHELL 'Adelaide City'	9
Peter OLLERTON 'Preston'	9
Jamie PATON 'Heidelberg'	9
Walter VALERI 'Canberra'	9

Ups and Downs

West Adelaide finished in the relegation zone for the second successive season yet retained their place for the 1982 season after the league considered the alternatives from South Australia 'unsuitable'. The squabble over 'ethnic names' also prevented the inclusion of clubs such as Sydney Croatia and Melbourne Croatia until the league split in 1984.

Did You Know?

The Philips Soccer League management committee asked the clubs to ban the sale of 'Soccer Action' newspaper after the paper continued to refer to the clubs as 'Hellas', 'Croatia', 'Juve', and so on.

1982

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney City	30	20	5	5	68	28	45
*St George Budapest	30	14	8	8	47	40	36
Wollongong	30	16	3	11	43	46	35
Heidelberg	30	13	8	9	42	37	34
Preston	30	12	10	8	45	41	34
South Melbourne Hellas	30	11	9	10	46	37	31
APIA Leichhardt	30	12	7	11	49	54	31
Sydney Olympic	30	12	6	12	52	42	30
West Adelaide	30	10	8	12	44	40	28
Marconi	30	12	4	14	44	43	28
Brisbane Lions	30	10	8	12	39	42	28
Newcastle	30	10	7	13	43	52	27
Adelaide City	30	6	12	12	36	44	24
Footscray JUST	30	5	14	11	34	46	24
Canberra City	30	7	10	13	37	54	24
Brisbane City	30	5	11	14	32	55	21

Top Four Finals Series

Minor Semi Final (in Melbourne)

Heidelberg 1 Jamie Paton 40 (pen)
Wollongong 3 Peter Tredinnick 30
Phil O'Connor 75, Ray Cotton 57 (pen)

Major Semi Final (in Sydney)

Sydney City 3 David Mitchell 38, Ken Boden 75
Joe Watson 87

St George 0

Preliminary Final (at Wollongong)

Wollongong 0
St George 2 Peter Wilkinson 51, Dez Marton 76

Grand Final (at Penrith)

St George 3 Dez Marton 23, 50 (pen), 83
Sydney City 1 John Kosmina 90 (pen)
St George: Terry Greedy, David Skeen, David Ratcliffe, Mike O'Shea, Robert O'Shea, John O'Shea, Peter Stone, Paul Wilkinson, Robbie Slater, Ted MacDougal, Dez Marton
Sydney City: Todd Clarke, Kevin Mullen, Alex Robertson, Jim Cani, Ian Bruce, John Spanos, Jim Patikas, Murray Barnes, Joe Watson, John Kosmina, David Mitchell

Feeling Right at Home Again.

The early years of the NSL produced dozen of guest appearances from overseas stars, including names such as Bobby Charlton and Kevin Keegan. But the return of our own heroes were just as memorable, such as when Craig Johnston returned to Newcastle and hit a hat-trick in a 3-1 home win over Brisbane Lions. The sight of over one thousand kids on the ground after the final whistle was a sign of what lay ahead when Frank Farina returned to Brisbane, and Robbie Slater returned to Sydney, and....

Leading Goalscorers

John KOSMINA 'South Melbourne'	23
Charlie EGAN 'South Melbourne'	20
Mark KOUSSAS 'Sydney Olympic'	16
Dez MARTON 'St George'	16
Phil O'CONNOR 'Wollongong'	6
Graham HONEYMAN 'West Adelaide'	14
Marshall SOPER 'APIA Leichhardt'	14
Jim CAMPBELL 'Heidelberg'	12
Gary COLE 'Heidelberg'	12
Sebastian GIAMPAOLO 'APIA Leichhardt'	12
Mark JANKOVICS 'Marconi'	12
Doug BROWN 'Preston'	11
Roy COTTON 'Wollongong'	10
John NYSKOHUS 'Adelaide City'	10
Jim REDFERN 'Sydney Olympic'	10

We Simply Must Quote You on That

'We have too much ad-hocery rather than long-term forward planning; too much autocratic rule rather than sound internal management structures and anyone remotely connected with soccer knows who I am pointing the finger at'
Charles Perkins, 1982.

1983

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St George Budapest	30	15	10	5	47	27	55
Sydney City	30	15	9	6	48	30	54
Preston	30	15	7	8	47	32	52
South Melbourne Hellas	30	15	7	8	44	36	52
Newcastle	30	14	7	9	45	26	49
Heidelberg	30	11	10	9	39	38	43
Sydney Olympic	30	12	5	13	38	36	41
APIA Leichhardt	30	11	6	13	43	36	39
Marconi	30	9	11	10	43	41	38
Canberra	30	11	5	14	47	53	38
Adelaide City	30	10	6	14	37	38	36
Footscray JUST	30	9	9	12	25	42	36
West Adelaide	30	7	12	11	25	37	33
Brisbane City	30	8	9	13	33	50	33
Wollongong	30	4	15	11	41	55	27
Brisbane Lions	30	6	8	16	36	61	26

NO FINAL SERIES PLAYED

THE CONFERENCE SYSTEM.

The introduction of the 'two conference' system for the 1984 season provided the most compelling evidence yet that the administrators had drifted from the original ideas of the 1970s. Suddenly the league contained 24 teams, split into what was effectively the 'NSW championship' and the 'Rest of Oz championship'. In an effort to gloss over this glaring anomaly, the league decided to run a series of 'inter-conference' matches which only served to confuse most fans. This idea was dropped after one season.

The relegation rules were, predictably, full of 'ifs and buts', resulting in only one change to the line-up (Inter-Monaro for Melita Eagles) after provincial clubs were awarded safe status for the first two years.

Sunshine would have been relegated had a Victorian State League club been willing to accept a place in the NSL. By the end of the 1985 season the clubs conceded the entire system had become unviable and a decision was made to revert to a one division 14 team competition for the 1987 season. The participants would be selected using a variety of criteria, with off-field performance being a key factor.

When the '87 season kicked off, the entire concept of a national league was in danger. The fourteen clubs included seven from Melbourne, six from Sydney, and Adelaide City (Juventus), and while the league hoped for consolidation in 1987, with a return to a 'true' national league with a new sponsor, even the best laid plans can go astray sometimes.

Leading Goalscorers

Doug BROWN 'South Melbourne'	16
John KOSMINA 'Sydney City'	15
Marshall SOPER 'Sydney Olympic'	13
John BRADLEY 'APIA Leichhardt'	12
Roy COTTON 'Wollongong'	12
Phil O'CONNOR 'Wollongong'	12
Charlie EGAN 'South Melbourne'	11
Derek LEA 'Heidelberg'	11
Jamie PATON 'Footscray JUST'	11
Rod BROWN 'Marconi'	10
David LOWE 'Newcastle'	10
Claude LUCCHESI 'Preston'	10
Dez MARTON 'St George'	10
Joe MULLEN 'Adelaide City'	10
Danny WRIGHT 'Brisbane Lions'	10

Venue

Merry-Go-Round.

Sydney City used five 'home' grounds during the season: Sydney Athletic Field, Marconi Stadium, Oaks Oval (Lismore), Graeme Park (Gosford) and St Gorge Stadium.

Money Back Guarantee!

In an effort to draw more spectators to home games, St George introduced a 'money-back' scheme if the match didn't provide adequate entertainment!

1984 Australian Conference.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney City	28	17	8	3	67	21	42
Sydney Olympic	28	16	8	4	61	27	40
Marconi	28	12	8	8	58	39	32
APIA Leichhardt	28	12	8	8	43	35	32
Blacktown	28	12	6	10	43	48	30
*Sydney Croatia	28	8	11	9	32	38	27
*Penrith	28	8	10	10	29	41	26
Newcastle Rosebud	28	11	4	13	35	52	26
Canberra	28	12	1	15	47	39	25
St George	28	8	9	11	38	41	25
*Melita Eagles (relegated)	28	8	8	12	23	38	24
Wollongong	28	5	5	18	22	59	15

Leading Goalscorers							
John KOSMINA							
'Sydney City'							19
Rod BROWN							
'Marconi Fairfield'							15
Peter KATHOLOS							
'Sydney Olympic'							13
David LOWE							
'Marconi Fairfield'							13
Graham ARNOLD							
'Sydney Croatia'							11
John BRADLEY							
'APIA Leichhardt'							11
Tom MCCULLOCH							
'Marconi'							11

Top Five Series

Elimination Final		Qualifying Final		Top Five Series	
APIA 3	Terry Butler 78	Sydney Olympic 2	Gary Phillips 76		
	Tony Genovese 101		Mark Koussas 102		
	Tony Morsello 109				
Blacktown 1	Michael McLaughlin 90	Marconi 1	David Lowe 55		
1st Semi Final		2nd Semi Final			
APIA 3	Arno Bertogna 74	Sydney City 1	Gerry Gomez 21		
	Vince Colaguri 96	Sydney Olympic 1	Peter Katholos 16		
	Vic Bozanic 105 (pen)	Sydney City	won 4-2 on pens		
Marconi 3	Peter Sharne 20				
	Rod Brown 117				
	Mark Jankovic 118				
APIA won 4-3 on pens					
Preliminary Final		Grand Final			
Sydney Olympic 3	Peter Raskopoulos 42	Sydney Olympic 2	Marshall Soper 105		
	Chris Kalantzi 70		Mike Coady 114		
	Jim Patikas 90	Sydney City 1	Steve O'Connor 99		
APIA 0					

1984 NSL Grand Final - 1st leg (at Olympic Park)

South Melbourne 2	Charlie Egan 43, 64
Sydney Olympic 1	Mark Koussas 5
Attendance: Approx 10,000	
Referee: Doug Rennie	
South Melbourne: Peter Laumets, Bobby Russell, Steve Blair, Angelo Postecoglou, Alan Davidson, Oscar Crino, Carl Halford, Ken Murphy, John Yzendoorn, Doug Brown, Charlie Egan. Coach: Len McKendry	
Sydney Olympic: Gary Meier, Tony Dakos, Graham Jennings, Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Katholos, Gary Phillips, Marlin Rogers, Mike Coady, Jim Patikas (Chris Kalantzi) Peter Katholos, Gary Phillips, Marlin Rogers, Mike Coady, Jim Patikas (Chris Kalantzi) Mark Koussas, (Nick Theodoropoulos), Marshall Soper. Coach: Manfred Schaefer	

1984 National Conference.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Leading Goalscorers
South Melbourne Hellas	28	18	4	6	48	20	40	Doug BROWN 'South Melbourne' 20
Heidelberg	28	14	7	7	37	27	35	Steve WINN 'Heidelberg' 11
*Melbourne Croatia	28	13	8	8	38	31	33	Paul LEWIS 'Green Gully' 10
Brisbane Lions	28	12	6	10	38	36	30	Joe CAIRNEY 'Brisbane Lions' 9
*Brunswick Juventus	28	13	4	11	36	42	30	Charlie EGAN 'South Melbourne' 9
Preston	28	11	6	11	42	33	28	Scott PATTERSON 'Footscray JUST' 9
Adelaide City	28	10	5	13	33	34	25	Joe SWEENEY 'Brunswick' 9
Footscray JUST	28	10	5	13	29	33	25	
*Green Gully	28	9	6	13	34	36	24	
West Adelaide	28	8	5	15	40	52	21	
Brisbane City	28	8	5	15	21	39	21	
*Sunshine George Cross	28	5	6	17	24	57	16	

Top Five Series

Elimination Final		Qualifying Final		Top Five Series	
Brisbane Lions 4		Jim McDonough 25	Heidelberg 1		
		John Stewart 30	Melb Croatia 2		
		Russell Stewart 44			
		Joe Cariney 78			
		Joe Sweeney 16, 25			
1st Semi Final		2nd Semi Final			
Heidelberg 0		South Melbourne 3	John Yzendoorn 84		
Brisbane Lions 0		Melbourne Croatia 2	Doug Brown 95, 96		
Heidelberg won 3-2 on pens		Steve Gojevic 44	Tommy Cumming 115		
Preliminary Final		Grand Final			
Heidelberg 3		South Melbourne 4	Alan Davidson 16		
		Stuart Stevenson 9	Oscar Crino 60, 84		
		38, 44	John Yzendoorn 80		
Melbourne Croatia 1		Heidelberg 2	Mike Petersen 7		
David Brogan 74 (pen)			Stuart Stevenson 39		

1984 NSL Grand Final - 2nd leg (at St George)

Sydney Olympic 1	Nick Theodoropoulos 34
South Melbourne 2	Oscar Crino 10, John Yzendoorn 18
Attendance: 11,221	
Referee: Chris Bambridge	
South Melbourne: Peter Laumets, Bobby Russell, Steve Blair, John Yzendoorn, Angelo Postecoglou, Alan Davidson, Oscar Crino (John Kanesoulis), Carl Halford, Ken Murphy, Charlie Egan, Doug Brown. Coach: Len McKendry	
Sydney Olympic: Gary Meier, Tony Dakos, Martin Rogers (Mark Koussas), Mike Coady, Gary Phillips, Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Katholos, Graham Jennings, Marshall Soper, Nick Theodoropoulos, Chris Kalantzi. Coach: Manfred Schaefer	

1985 Southern Conference

	Plyd	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne Hellas	22	14	5	3	39	21	33
Brunswick United	22	11	7	4	33	19	29
Heidelberg	22	10	7	5	29	17	27
Melbourne Croatia	22	9	6	7	29	21	24
Preston	22	9	6	7	30	28	24
Sunshine George Cross	22	8	7	7	25	22	23
Brisbane Lions	22	9	4	9	29	29	22
Green Gully	22	6	6	10	24	29	18
Adelaide City	22	6	6	10	29	35	18
West Adelaide	22	6	5	11	24	37	17
Brisbane City	22	6	5	11	25	42	17
Footscray	22	5	2	15	25	41	12

Leading Goalscorers							
Charlie EGAN							
'South Melbourne'	18						
Ossie LATIF							
'Sunshine G C'	11						
Gary PRICE							
'West Adelaide'	11						
Stuart STEVENSON							
'Heidelberg'	11						
Paul LEWIS							
'Green Gully'	10						
Joe SWEENEY							
'Brunswick'	10						
Doug BROWN							
'South Melbourne'	9						

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at Olympic Park)

Melb Croatia 1 Josip Biskic 13
Preston 2 Jorgo Gagic 25
Ljube Petrovski 40

Qualifying Final (at Olympic Park)

Heidelberg 0
Brunswick 2 Andrew Zinni 69
Richard Miranda 77

Minor Semi Final (at Olympic Park)

Heidelberg 0
Preston 2 Sean Lane 64
o.g. 70 (Joe Angele)

Major Semi Final (at Olympic Park)

South Melbourne 0
Brunswick 1 Paul Wade 115

Preliminary Final (at Olympic Park)

South Melbourne 4 Charlie Egan 12, 39, 84
Doug Brown 116
Preston 4 Steve Smith 13
Zoran Ilioski 20
Gary Cole 87, 101

Grand Final (at Olympic Park)

Brunswick 2 Michael Petersen 8
Paul Wade 85
Preston 1 Steve Smith 31
Attendance: Approx 7,000
Referee: Peter Rampley

Preston won on penalties.

1985 NSL Grand Final - 1st leg (at St George Stadium)

Sydney City Hakoah 0
Brunswick Juventus 1 Fabio Incantalupo 38

Attendance: 2,491

Referee: Peter Rampley

Sydney: Tony Pezzano, Ean Rodrigues (Jean-Paul de Marigny), Alex Robertson, Steve O'Connor, Jim Cant, Grant Lee, Joe Watson, Murray Barnes (sent off 2nd half), Frank Farina, John Kosmina, David Mitchell. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

Brunswick: Yakkia Banovic, Mehmet Durakovic, John Dowie, Brian Brown, Eddie Campbell, Fabio Incantalupo, Mike Petersen, Paul Wade, Richard Miranda, Robbie Cullen, Joe Sweeney. Coach: John Margaritis.

Referee: Peter Falconer, Graeme Fletcher, John Margaritis.

Sydney: Tony Pezzano, Alex Robertson (Peter Falconer, Graeme Fletcher), Ean Rodrigues, Steve O'Connor, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Joe Watson, Paul Kay, Jim Cant, Grant Lee, David Mitchell, Frank Farina. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

1985 Northern Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney Croatia	22	14	4	4	43	18	32
Sydney Olympic	22	9	9	4	33	22	27
St George	22	11	5	6	33	29	27
Marconi	22	9	6	35	23	25	
Sydney City (relegated)	22	8	8	6	36	27	24
Newcastle (relegated)	22	9	6	7	36	33	24
APIA Leichhardt	22	9	6	7	25	23	24
Wollongong (relegated)	22	9	5	8	26	25	23
Blacktown (relegated)	22	8	4	10	24	36	20
Canberra (relegated)	22	5	6	11	21	27	16
*Marrickville (relegated)	22	2	7	13	17	41	11
Inter - Monaro (relegated)	22	3	5	14	18	43	11

Leading Goalscorers							
Jim PATIKAS							
'Sydney Croatia'	17						
Mark JANKOVICS							
'Marconi'	14						
Graham ARNOLD							
'Sydney Croatia'	12						
Rod BROWN							
'Marconi'	11						
Frank FARINA							
'Sydney City'	11						
David LOWE							
'Marconi'	9						
Phil O'CONNOR							
'Blacktown City'	9						

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at St George)

Sydney Olympic 1 Alex Lambropoulos 64

Qualifying Final (at Marconi)

Sydney Croatia 2 Lee Sterrey o.g. 11

Shane Clinch 49

Rod Brown 17

St George 0

Marconi 1

1st Semi Final (at St George)

Marconi 3 Rod Brown 8

2nd Semi Final (at St George)

Paul Carter 68

Sydney City Hakoah 1 Grant Lee 54

Mark Jankovics 118

Sydney Croatia 0

Marshall Soper 7

Chris Polias 53, Alex Zervas 115

Marconi won 7-6 on penalties

Preliminary Final (at Marconi)

Marconi 1 Tony Henderson 71

Grand Final (at St George)

Sydney City 2 John Kosmina 7

Frank Farina 53

Marconi 0

Attendance: 3300

Referee: Richard Lorenc

1985 NSL Grand Final - 2nd leg (at Olympic Park)

Brunswick Juventus 1 Fabio Incantalupo 41

Sydney City Hakoah 0

Attendance: 7,560

Referee: Don Campbell

Brunswick: Yakkia Banovic, Peter Lewis, Brian Brown, John Dowie, Eddie Campbell, Paul Wade, Richard Miranda, Mike Petersen, Fabio Incantalupo, Robbie Cullen, (Rene Minichiello), Joe Sweeney. Coach: John Margaritis.

Sydney: Tony Pezzano, Alex Robertson (Peter Falconer, Graeme Fletcher),

Ean Rodrigues, Steve O'Connor, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Joe Watson, Paul Kay,

Jim Cant, Grant Lee, David Mitchell, Frank Farina. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

1986 Southern Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Leading Goalscorers
Brunswick Juventus	22	11	6	5	37	21	28	Andrew ZINNI 'Brunswick'
Footscray JUST	22	10	8	4	29	27	28	Gary COLE 'Preston Makedonia'
Adelaide Juventus	22	10	7	5	32	19	27	Steve MAXWELL 'Adelaide City'
Sunshine George Cross	22	8	11	3	26	17	27	Alan HUNTER 'Heidelberg'
Heidelberg	22	9	8	5	35	25	26	Ossie LATIF 'Footscray JUST'
Preston Makedonia	22	8	9	5	30	20	25	Joe MULLEN 'Adelaide City'
South Melbourne Hellas	22	10	5	7	27	20	25	Charlie VILLANI 'Adelaide City'
Brisbane Lions (relegated)	22	7	5	10	27	28	19	Charlie VILLANI 'Adelaide City'
Adelaide Hellas (relegated)	22	7	4	11	26	34	18	
Melbourne Croatia	22	6	6	10	25	33	18	
Brisbane City (relegated)	22	3	7	12	18	46	13	
Green Gully (relegated)	22	2	6	14	16	38	10	

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at Olympic Park)		Qualifying Final (at Olympic Park)	
Sunshine GC	2	John Campelj 15	Vlado Bozinovski 9
		Noel Mitten 52	Vlatko Belic 47
Heidelberg		Adelaide Juventus	
1		Nick Deligiannis 46	3 Charlie Villani 38
Att: Approx 7,000		Ref: Richard Lorenc	Joe Mullen 53
			Sergio Melta 76 (pen)
			Ref: Gary Power
Att: Approx 7,000		Att: Approx 7,000	
Minor Semi Final (at Olympic Park)		Major Semi Final (at Hindmarsh Stadium)	
Footscray JUST		Adelaide Juventus	
2	Zoran Nikitovic 45 (pen)	2 Charlie Villani 67	Aurelio Vidmar 69
	Warren Spink 89		
George Cross		Brunswick Juventus	
0	Ref: Bob Davies	0	Ref: Jim Reeves
Att: Approx 5,000		Att: 5,400	
Preliminary Final (at Olympic Park)		Grand Final (at Olympic Park)	
Footscray JUST		Adelaide City Juve	
2	Vojislav Vukcevic 89	2 Aurelio Vidmar 74	Steve Maxwell 79
	Zdravko Lujic 98		
Brunswick Juve.		Footscray JUST	
1	Paul Wade 75	1 Suleiman Curovic 48	Ref: Gary Power
Att: Approx 4,000	Ref: Richard Lorenc	Att: 6,158	

NATIONAL GRAND FINAL - 1ST LEG (at Hindmarsh Stadium)

Adelaide Juventus 0
Sydney Olympic 1 Tony Dakos 79
Alt: 12,232 Ref: Chris Bambridge
Adelaide: Willie McNally - Paul Shillabeer, Bugsy Nyskohus, Neville Flounders, Alex Tobin - Adrian Santrac (Paul Wilde 78), Sergio Melta, Charlie Villani, Aurelio Vidmar - Steve Maxwell, Joe Mullen Coach: Zoran Matic
Sydney: Gary Meier - Martin Rogers, Tony Dakos, Mike Coady, Manny Spanoudakis, Gary Phillips, Peter Raskopoulos, Vince Estavillo - Marshall Soper (Andy Stankovic 75), Alex Zervas, Chris Kalantzis (Terry Patalis 84) Coach: Manfred Schaefer

1986 Northern Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Leading Goalscorers
Sydney Croatia	22	14	4	4	43	18	32	Graham ARNOLD 'Sydney Croatia'
Sydney Olympic	22	9	9	4	33	22	27	John KOSMINA 'Sydney City'
St George	22	11	5	6	33	29	27	Rod BROWN 'Marconi'
Marconi	22	9	7	6	35	23	25	Mark JONES 'Newcastle'
Sydney City (relegated)	22	8	8	6	36	27	24	Sean INGHAM 'Newcastle'
Newcastle (relegated)	22	9	6	7	36	33	24	Zjelko JURIN 'Sydney Croatia'
APIA - Leichhardt	22	9	6	7	25	23	24	Graeme FLETCHER 'St George'
Wollongong (relegated)	22	9	5	8	26	25	23	
Blacktown (relegated)	22	8	4	10	24	36	20	
Canberra (relegated)	22	5	6	11	21	27	16	
*Marrickville (relegated)	22	2	7	13	17	41	11	
Inter - Monaro (relegated)	22	3	5	14	18	43	11	

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at St George Stadium)		Qualifying Final (at St George Stadium)	
Marconi	3	David Lowe 60	St George 1 Andy Koczka 16
		Mark Janikovics 82	Sydney Olympic 0
		Geoff Gunning 88	Att: 7,000 Ref: Bill Monteverde
Sydney Hakoah		Frank Farina 7, 21, 57	
		Marconi won 4-3 on penalties	
		Att: 7,000	Ref: Stuart Mellings
Minor Semi Final (at St George Stadium)		Major Semi Final (at St George Stadium)	
Sydney Olympic	2	Gary Phillips 22 (pen)	Sydney Croatia 0
		Marshall Soper 88	St George 3 Pedro Ricoy 8
Marconi	1	David Lowe 1	Andy Koczka 11
		Ref: Jim Rossis	Scott Ollermannshaw 55
Ref: Jim Rossis		Ref: Chris Bambridge	
Preliminary Final (at St George Stadium)		Grand Final (at Parramatta Stadium)	
Sydney Croatia	3	Zarko Odzakov 21 pen	St George 2 Peter Petkovski 35
		Graham Arnold 57, Zeljko Jurin 63	John O'Shea 54
Sydney Olympic	4	Gary Phillips 51 (pen)	Sydney Olympic 3 Gary Phillips 32
		Marshall Soper 65, 75, Stuart Johnstone 102	Marshall Soper 66, Chris Kalantzis 116
		Att: 8,305	Ref: Don Campbell Att: 11,305
Ref: Don Campbell		Ref: Bill Monteverde	

NATIONAL FINAL - 2ND LEG (at Parramatta Stadium)

Sydney Olympic 1 Stuart Johnstone 66
Adelaide Juventus 3 Sergio Melta 31 (pen), Steve Maxwell 44, Charlie Villani 59
Alt: 14,032 Ref: Don Campbell
Sydney: Gary Meier - Martin Rogers, Mike Coady, Patalis 69, Peter Raskopoulos, Andy Stankovic (Alex Zervas 25), Manny Spanoudakis - Gary Phillips, Vince Estavillo, Stuart Johnstone - Marshall Soper (R63), Chris Kalantzis Coach: Manfred Schaefer
Adelaide: Willy McNally - Paul Shillabeer, Bugsy Nyskohus, Neville Flounders, Adrian Santrac, Alex Tobin - Sergio Melta, Charlie Villani, Aurelio Vidmar (Wilde 78) - Steve Maxwell, Joe Mullen Coach: Zoran Matic

1987

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APIA Leichhardt	24	13	9	2	39	21	35
Preston	24	11	7	6	32	22	29
St George	24	12	5	7	31	24	29
Marconi	24	11	5	8	31	25	27
Sydney Croatia	24	10	6	8	31	25	26
South Melbourne Hellas	24	9	7	8	32	34	25
Sydney Olympic	24	7	9	8	29	32	23
Brunswick Juventus	24	9	5	10	18	23	23
Melbourne Croatia	24	9	5	10	22	30	23
Adelaide Juventus	24	6	10	8	29	23	22
Footscray JUST	24	7	8	9	17	27	22
Sunshine George Cross	24	3	9	12	26	42	15
*Heidelberg United (relegated)	24	3	7	14	25	44	13

APIA Leichhardt crowned National Champions

Final Five Series (NOT part of the Championship process)

Elimination Final (at St George Stadium)
Marconi 3 Frank Farina, Zlatko Nastevski, Tom McCulloch
Sydney Croatia 2 Shane Clinch, Graham Arnold
Preliminary Semi Final (at St George Stadium)
St George 2 Scott Ollerenshaw 2
Preston 1 George Slifkas
Minor Semi Final (at Olympic Park)
Preston 2 Steve Smith, Goce Dimovski
Marconi 2 Frank Farina, Gerry Gomez
Preston won 5-3 on penalties
Major Semi Final (at St George Stadium)
St George 2 Craig Moffitt, Graeme Fletcher
APIA Leichhardt 1 Hilton Phillips
Preliminary Final (at Olympic Park)
APIA-Leichhardt 0
Preston 0
APIA won 3-1 on penalties
Grand Final - November 1 (at Parramatta Stadium)
St George 4 Kevin Hagan 20, 72 Scott Ollerenshaw 42 Pedro Ricoy 44
Attendance: 6,961 Ref: Richard Lorenc

Leading Goalscorers	
Frank FARINA	16
'Marconi'	16
Rod BROWN	14
'APIA Leichhardt'	14
Paul LEWIS	10
'Melbourne Croatia'	10
Steve SMITH	10
'Preston'	10
Joe MULLEN	9
'Adelaide City'	9
Robbie SLATER	9
'Sydney Croatia'	9
Charlie VILLANI	9
'Adelaide City'	9
Ron CAMPBELL	8
'Preston'	8
John MARKOVSKI	8
'Sunshine'	8
Paul WADE	8
'South Melbourne'	8

Did You Know?????

The reduction in teams (from 24 to 14) sparked a transfer frenzy. Some of the major moves included:-

- Danny Wright, Brisbane Lions to South Melbourne
- John Kosmina, Sydney City to Sydney Olympic
- Robbie Slater, Blacktown to Sydney Croatia
- Rod Brown, Marconi to APIA
- Charlie Yankos, West Adelaide Hellas to APIA
- Robbie Dunn, West Adelaide Hellas to APIA

To Show or Not To Show.
SBS television were keen to show live matches each week but the NSL clubs were not. In the end, a compromise was reached and six matches were shown.

Did You Know?????

Sydney City withdrew from the 1987 season after just one round, when the club had it's funding withdrawn by the Hakoah Social Club.

1988

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wollongong City	26	13	8	5	44	32	34
Sydney Croatia	26	15	4	7	38	30	34
South Melbourne Hellas	26	13	8	5	36	29	34
Marconi Fairfield	26	12	8	6	46	26	32
Sydney Olympic	26	9	9	8	26	22	27
Adelaide City	26	10	7	9	36	35	27
Sunshine George Cross	26	11	5	10	38	39	27
St George	26	10	6	10	41	35	26
Melbourne Croatia	26	9	6	11	28	33	24
Footscray JUST	26	7	9	10	34	32	23
APIA Leichhardt	26	8	7	11	28	35	23
Preston	26	5	12	9	29	35	22
Brunswick Juventus	26	7	5	14	31	43	19
*Brisbane Lions (Relegated)	26	4	4	18	28	59	12

Final Five Series

Elimination Final (at St George Stadium, aet)
Marconi 3 Zlatko Nastevski 104, 111
Peter Katholos 82

Sydney Olympic 1 Terry Patalis
Att: 6,200

Preliminary Semi-final (at Marconi Stadium)

Sydney Croatia 2 Sean Ingham 72, Mark Jones 97
South Melbourne 1 Angie Postecoglou 30

Att: 4,561

Minor Semi Final (at Olympic Park, aet)

South Melbourne 1 Danny Wright 67
Ian Gray 79, Vince Colaguri 95

Att: 5,232

Major Semi-final (at Marconi Stadium)

Wollongong City 0
Sydney Croatia 0

Sydney Croatia won 4-3 on penalties

Att: 7,106

Preliminary Final (at Croatian Sports Centre)

Marconi 2 David Lowe 55, Frank Farina 57
Wollongong City 0

Att: 3,592

Grand Final (at Parramatta Stadium)

Marconi 2 Steve Calderan 39
Zlatko Nastevski 116 (pen)

Sydney Croatia 2 Alan Hunter 57 Manis Lamond 108
att: 1-1 after normal time. Marconi won 3-2 on penalties
Att: 17,064 Ref: Chris Bambridge

Leading Goalscorers	
Frank FARINA	16
'Marconi'	16
Paul LEWIS	3
'Melbourne Croatia'	3
Warren SPINK	2
'Footscray JUST'	13
Steve MAXWELL	11
'Adelaide City'	11
Zlatko NASTEVSKI	11
'Marconi'	11
Paul PALATIDES	11
'Brunswick'	11
Graham ARNOLD	10
'Sydney Croatia'	10
Charlie EGAN	10
'Brunswick'	10
Scott OLLERENSHAW	10
'St George'	10
Randall EASTHORPE	9
'Wollongong City'	9
Manis LAMOND	9
'Sydney Croatia'	9
Sergio MELTA	9
'Adelaide City'	9
Hilton PHILLIPS	9
'APIA Leichhardt'	9
Paul TRIMBOLI	8
'South Melbourne'	8

Gooooaaaallll!!!!!!

The last kick of Marconi captain Tony Henderson's NSL career was the decisive penalty in the grand final penalty shoot-out.

Missed Opportunity...

The 1988 season was punctuated by the Bi-Centennial Gold Cup tournament in July, when the Socceroos stunned Argentina 4-1.

Further heroics later in the year at the Olympic Games set the stage for a resurgence in interest, only for the bubble to burst with World Cup elimination against Israel the following year.

How They Fared - NSL Regular Season Final Placings 1977 – 1999

	Yrs in.	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Eastern Suburbs Hakoah / Sydney City	10	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	a1	n1	s5
Marconi Fairfield	23	2	4	1	4	14	10	9	a3	n3	n4
Fitzroy Alexander / Heidelberg United	17	3	5	2	2	8	4	6	b2	s3	s5
Adelaide City Juventus	23	4	10	5	5	7	13	11	b7	s9	s3
Western Suburbs	2	5	9								
St George Budapest	14	6	7	11	14		2	1	a10	n5	n3
West Adelaide Hellas / Sharks	19	7	1	7	13	16	9	13	b11	s10	s9
Footscray JUST / Melbourne City JUST	12	8	12	10	9	13	14	12	b8	s12	s2
Brisbane Lions	11	9	6	9	7	6	11	16	b4	s7	s8
Brisbane City	10	10	14	4	12	3	16	14	b10	s11	s11
South Melbourne Hellas	23	11	3	14	3	2	6	4	b1	s12	s7
Sydney UTS / Olympic	22	12	8	13		9	8	7	a2	n4	n2
Canberra Arrows / City	10	13	13	12	10	5	15	10	a9	n6	n10
Mooroolbark	1	14									
Newcastle KB / Rosebud	15		11	6	6	10	12	5	a8	n12	n6
APIA Leichhardt	14		8	8	4	7	8	a4	n9	n7	
Blacktown City	7			11	15			a5	n8	n9	
Wollongong City / Wolves	18				11	3	15	a12	n10	n8	
Preston Makedonia	13					12	5	3	b6	s5	s6
Sydney Croatia	16							a6	n2	n1	
Penrith	2							a7	n11		
Melita / Parramatta Eagles	7							a11			
Melbourne Croatia / Knights	16							b3	s4	s10	
Brunswick Juventus / Melbourne Zebras	6							b5	s2	s1	
Green Gully Ajax	3							b9	s8	s12	
Sunshine George Cross	8							b12	s6	s4	
Inter Monaro	2							n7	n12		
Canterbury Marrickville	1								n11		
Wollongong Macedonia	1										
Newcastle Breakers	7										
Brisbane Strikers	8										
Morwell / Gippsland Falcons	7										
Canberra Cosmos	4										
Collingwood Warriors	1										
Perth Glory	3										
Carlton	2										
Northern Spirit	1										

a = Australian Conference
n = Northern Conference

	1987	1988	1989	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99
Sydney City Hakoah / Sydney City	4	4	1	1	4	7	2	4	10	1	5	5	4
Marconi Fairfield	13	14			12	9	11	14	13				
Fitzroy Alexander / Heidelberg United	10	6	6	4	3	4	3	5	2	5	4	3	6
Adelaide City Juventus													
Western Suburbs													
St George Budapest	3	8	2	10	10								
West Adelaide Hellas / Sharks	11	10		13	13	5	9	5	7	8	10		13
Footscray JUST / Melbourne City JUST		14											
Brisbane Lions													
Brisbane City	6	3	8	2	2	3	1	2	6	8	3	1	2
South Melbourne	7	5	3	5	6	2	9	6	9	3	9	9	7
Sydney UTS / Olympic													
Canberra Arrows / City													
Mooroolbark													
APIA Leichhardt	1	11	10	6	11	8							
Blacktown City			12	14									
Wollongong City / Wolves				1	9	11	9	5	4	11	8	11	10
Preston Makedonia			2	12	5	9	8	14	13				
Sydney Croatia			5	2	7	7	12	7	3	3	6	1	4
Penrith													
Melita / Parramatta Eagles								8	5	10	6	10	12
Melbourne Croatia / Knights			9	9	4	3	1	1	10	1	1	2	6
Brunswick Juventus / Melbourne Zebras			8	13	13								
Green Gully Ajax													
Sunshine George Cross			12	7	11	12	13						
Inter Monaro													
Canterbury Marrickville			14										
Wollongong Macedonia													
Newcastle Breakers													
Brisbane Strikers													
Morwell / Gippsland Falcons													
Canberra Cosmos													
Collingwood Warriors													
Perth Glory													
Carlton													
Northern Spirit													

b = National Conference
s = Southern Conference

1989

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	26	16	6	4	62	24	38
St George	26	12	8	6	33	24	32
Sydney Olympic	26	11	9	6	37	26	31
Melbourne Croatia	26	13	5	8	44	35	31
Preston Makedonia	26	11	8	7	31	24	30
Adelaide City	26	10	8	8	29	24	28
Sydney Croatia	26	10	8	8	25	25	28
South Melbourne Hellas	26	9	8	9	44	37	26
Wollongong	26	8	7	11	22	29	23
APIA Leichhardt	26	7	9	10	27	35	23
Sunshine George Cross	26	7	5	14	25	38	19
'Blacktown City'	26	5	9	12	28	50	19
Melbourne JUST (relegated)	26	5	8	13	24	37	18
Heidelberg (relegated)	26	7	4	15	22	45	18

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at Olympic Park)
Melbourne Croatia 2 Branko Milosevic 63
 Zeljko Adzic 56

Preston 0

Qualifying Final (at Barton Park)

St George 1 Scott Ollerenshaw 61
Sydney Olympic 0

1st Semi Final

Sydney Olympic 3 Alistair Edwards 12
 Abbas Saad 57
 John Koch 96
Melbourne Croatia 2 Francis Awaritefe 21
 Zeljko Adzic 64

2nd Semi Final (at Marconi)

Marconi 1 Zlatko Nastevski 43
St George 0

Preliminary Final (at Barton Park)

Sydney Olympic 1 Abbas Saad 75
St George 0

Grand Final (at Parramatta)

Marconi 1 Zlatko Nastevski 91
Sydney Olympic 0 Referee: Jim Reeves
 Attendance: 23,387
 Marconi: Bob Catlin, Matteo Colucci (R39), Robert Wheatley, Steve Calderon, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Tommy McCulloch, Peter Katholos, Ian Gray, Zlatko Nastevski, David Lowe (Gerry Gomez), Fred de Jong
Sydney Olympic: Gary Meier, David Barrett (Andrew Bernall), Robbie Hooker, George Haniotis, Steve Georgakis, Grant Lee, Robert Ironside, John Koch, Jason Polak, Alastair Edwards, Abbas Saad

Leading Goalscorers

Zlatko NASTEVSKI 'Marconi'	20
Fred DEJONG 'Marconi'	13
Zeljko ADZIC 'Melbourne Croatia'	11
Scott OLLERENSHAW 'St George'	11
Ivan KELIC 'Melbourne Croatia'	10
Paul TRIMBOLI 'South Melbourne'	10
Zlatko ARAMBASIC 'Blacktown City'	9
Francis AWARITEFE 'Melbourne Croatia'	9
Paul LEWIS 'Sunshine'	9
Matthew BINGLEY 'St George'	8
Ian GRAY 'Marconi'	8
Angie POSTECOGLOU 'South Melbourne'	8
Warren SPINK 'Preston'	8

Player

Merry-Go-Round

The player drain was already past the novelty stage with twenty-three players based overseas compared to only five in 1985. The number of avenues to Europe had grown as well, with players finding employment in England, Yugoslavia, Greece, Belgium, Finland, Scotland, France and West Germany. Holland, Portugal and South-east Asia would follow shortly.

Spectator Watch

Attendances were another consideration in the switch to summer soccer. Marconi topped the 1989 averages with 4,375 while Blacktown brought up the rear with 1,165.

1989-90

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	26	16	6	4	51	24	38
South Melbourne	26	15	6	5	42	23	36
Melbourne Croatia	26	14	7	5	49	26	35
Adelaide City	26	13	8	5	39	23	34
Sydney Olympic	26	12	7	7	40	25	31
APIA Leichhardt	26	11	9	6	36	25	31
Sydney Croatia	26	10	6	10	40	39	26
'Parramatta Eagles'	26	10	6	10	31	31	26
Preston Makedonia	26	9	5	12	33	35	23
St George	26	7	7	12	35	44	21
Wollongong	26	8	4	14	30	48	20
Sunshine George Cross	26	6	5	15	24	49	17
'West Adelaide' (relegated)	26	5	4	17	21	54	14
Blacktown (relegated)	26	4	4	18	30	55	12

Top Five Series

Elimination Final
Sydney Olympic 2 Grant Lee 22, 33
Adelaide City 1 Aurelio Vidmar 7

Qualifying Final

South Melbourne 1 Peter Tsolakis 7
Melbourne Croatia 1 Joe Caleta 23
Melbourne Knights won 7 - 6 on penalties.

1st Semi Final

Sydney Olympic 1 Alastair Edwards 57
South Melbourne 0

2nd Semi Final

Marconi 1 Fred De Jong 88
Melbourne Croatia 0

Preliminary Final

Sydney Olympic 2 Robert Ironside 37,
 Abbas Saad 81
Melbourne Croatia 1 Francis Awaritefe 30

Grand Final

Marconi 0
Sydney Olympic 2 Alastair Edwards 34
 Robert Ironside 61

Attendance: 26,352 *NSL record

What if...?
 Sydney Olympic won the grand final but they almost never made the finals! APIA needed one point from their last match to seal fifth spot, but went down 0-1 at Melbourne Croatia, allowing Olympic to sneak the last finals spot on goal difference.

Leading Goalscorers

David SEAL 'Sydney Croatia'	15
Greg BROWN 'Parramatta Eagles'	14
Tony KRSLOVIC 'St George'	14
Abbas SAAD 'Sydney Olympic'	12
Kimon TALIADOROS 'South Melbourne'	12
Peter TSOLAKIS 'South Melbourne'	12
Zeljko ADZIC 'Melbourne Croatia'	11
Zlatko NASTEVSKI 'Marconi'	11
Rod BROWN 'APIA Leichhardt'	10

The Switch to Summer...

...came about simply because it had to. Soccer could not compete with the other three winter codes for media coverage, with the VFL in particular, freshly expanded to include the West Coast Eagles and Brisbane Bears, ready to take corporate sport in Australia to a new level. There were a number of other significant advantages with the change in seasons, however, including the obvious one of bringing Australian soccer into line with the European season, allowing (in theory) for greater access to overseas player release and tours by European countries to these shores. But the real benefit would come later, with improved playing surfaces playing a major role in the development of players. Sadly, the league still had an image problem, with only Blacktown and Wollongong being non-ethnic backed clubs.

Did You Know?

Sydney Olympic player Gary Philips announced his retirement from the game to take up a job in Hong Kong promoting surfing.

Gooooaaaal!!!!!!

Pat Brodrik of Wollongong City scored six goals against West Adelaide - a NSL record

1990-91

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne Croatia	26	15	7	4	55	39	37
South Melbourne Hellas	26	14	6	6	45	33	34
Adelaide City	26	12	9	5	40	24	33
Marconi	26	14	3	9	48	33	31
Parramatta Eagles	26	10	9	7	38	31	29
Sydney Olympic	26	8	13	5	31	25	29
Sydney Croatia	26	8	10	8	27	33	26
Preston Makedonia	26	8	9	9	26	27	25
Wollongong City	26	8	8	10	32	34	24
St George Budapest (relegated)	26	6	10	10	34	41	22
APIA Leichhardt	26	7	7	12	27	28	21
*Heidelberg Utd	26	6	9	11	26	37	21
Sunshine George Cross(releg)	26	7	3	16	39	53	17
*Wollongong Macedonia (releg)	26	3	9	14	23	53	15

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at Parramatta)	
Marconi 3	Ian Gray 54, Tom McCulloch 76
	David Lowe 119
Melita Eagles 3	Greg Brown 39, Aytec Genc 61
	Andrew Callahan 94
Marconi	won 7-6 on pens (2-2 at full time)

Qualifying Final (at Olympic Park)

South Melbourne 4	Paul Trimboli 21, Alex Tobin og 67
	Paul Wade 80 (pen)
	Kimon Taliadoros 87
Adelaide City 2	Sergio Melta 24
	Ernie Tapai 60

1st Semi Final	
Adelaide City 1	Joe Mullen 93
Marconi 0	

2nd Semi Final	
Melbourne Croatia 1	Francis Awaritefe 59
South Melbourne 0	

Preliminary Final	
South Melbourne 1	Paul Trimboli 70
Adelaide City 0	

Grand Final	
Melbourne Croatia 1	Andrew Marth 25
South Melbourne 1	Joe Palatsides 88
South Melbourne	won 5-4 on pens.
Attendance:	23,318
Joe Marston Medal:	Josip Biskic (Mلب Croatia)

Leading Goalscorers

David SEAL	
'Marconi'	19
Ivan KELIC	
'Melbourne Croatia'	17
Andrew HARPER	
'St George'	15
Tony KRISLOVIC	
'Sydney Croatia'	12
Greg BROWN	
'Parramatta'	11
Francis AWARITEFE	
'Melbourne Croatia'	10
Steve MAXWELL	
'Adelaide City'	10
Derek HUNTER	
'Sunshine'	9
John MARKOVSKI	
'Marconi'	9
Marshall SOPER	
'Parramatta'	9
Warren SPINK	
'Preston Makedonia'	9
Carl VEART	
'Adelaide City'	9

Goooooallll!!!!!!

Ivan Kelic equalled the NSL record by scoring six goals for Melbourne Croatia against Wollongong Macedonia in March.

Seven years bad luck?

South Melbourne scratched their seven-year itch with a dramatic come-from-behind shoot-out victory in front of their own fans, and cementing coach Ferenc Puskas' love of Melbourne. Unfortunately for Souths, there was another seven year itch just ahead.....

Did You Know?

St George drew six matches in a row during the 90/91 season.

1991-92

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne CSC	26	14	7	5	45	26	35
Sydney Olympic	26	12	10	4	38	27	34
South Melbourne	26	13	5	8	51	28	31
Adelaide City	26	10	9	7	26	23	29
Wollongong City	26	9	10	7	24	17	28
*Brisbane United	26	8	10	8	31	35	26
Marconi Fairfield	26	10	5	11	33	31	25
APIA Leichhardt	26	7	11	8	26	28	25
Heidelberg United	26	8	8	10	28	33	24
Parramatta Eagles	26	6	11	9	24	24	23
*Newcastle Breakers	26	7	8	11	28	39	22
Sydney Croatia	26	6	9	11	22	33	21
*West Adelaide	26	7	7	12	25	46	21
Preston	26	5	10	11	21	32	20

Top Five Series

Elimination Final (at Hindmarsh)	
Adelaide City 1	Carl Veart 5
Wollongong City 0	

Qualifying Final (at Parramatta)

Sydney Olympic 0	
South Melbourne 2	Danny Wright 43, Michael Michalakopoulos 87

Minor Semi Final (at Parramatta)

Sydney Olympic 1	Abbas Saad 75
Adelaide City 2	Carl Veart 18, 117 (a.e.t.)

Major Semi final (at Olympic Park)

Melbourne CSC 0	
South Melbourne 0	

Melb CSC won 5-3 on pens

Preliminary Final (at Olympic Park)

South Melbourne 0	
Adelaide City 2	Ross Aloisi 49, Carl Veart 75

Grand Final (at Olympic Park)

Melbourne CSC 0	
Adelaide City 0	

Adelaide City won 4-2 on pens

Attendance: 15,463

Joe Marston Medal: Alex Tobin (Ad City)

Leading Goalscorers

Tim BREDBURY	'Sydney Olympic'	15
Kimon TALIADOROS	'South Melbourne'	15
Francis AWARITEFE	'Melbourne CSC'	14
Damian MORI	'Melbourne CSC'	11
Robert IRONSIDE	'Sydney Olympic'	9
David SEAL	'Marconi Fairfield'	9
Warren SPINK	'Preston Makedonia'	9
Paul TRIMBOLI	'South Melbourne'	9
Greg BROWN	'Parramatta'	8
John GIBSON	'APIA Leichhardt'	8
Andrew HARPER	'Marconi'	8
Marshall SOPER	'Parramatta'	8

A Step in the Right Direction.

The inclusion of Brisbane, Newcastle and a second Adelaide team gave the league a badly needed shot in the arm. The league was further boosted by the fact it was the first time in the history of the NSL that teams from four separate population bases had teams in a single division finals series.

Encouraged by that (and the fact Brisbane finished sixth) and following the lead of other codes, it was decided to expand the finals series to six teams.

Did You Know?

The ramifications of the clash between Preston and Heidelberg (and their supporters) were far reaching, with Preston being docked four points at the beginning of the 92/93 season.

1992-93

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	26	18	4	4	51	23	58
Marconi Fairfield	26	17	2	7	57	31	53
Adelaide City	26	12	5	9	37	34	41
Wollongong Wolves	26	11	6	9	33	27	39
West Adelaide Sharks	26	12	3	11	43	39	39
Parramatta Eagles	26	11	6	9	39	41	39
Sydney CSC	26	12	3	11	36	41	39
Newcastle Breakers	26	10	8	8	38	29	38
Sydney Olympic	26	10	4	12	36	31	34
Melbourne CSC	26	10	4	12	38	39	34
Heidelberg Utd	26	7	9	10	30	40	30
*Morwell Falcons	26	7	7	12	29	43	28
Preston (relegated)	26	6	4	16	28	45	18
Brisbane United	26	5	3	18	32	64	18

Leading Goalscorers	
Francis AWARITEFE	'South Melbourne' 18
Warren SPINK	'Newcastle' 16
Andrew HARPER	'Marconi' 15
Jose IRIARTE	'West Adelaide' 14
David SEAL	'Sydney Olympic' 12
Carl VEART	'Adelaide City' 12
Kimon TALIADOROS	'Marconi' 11
Con BOUTSIANIS	'South Melbourne' 10
Greg BROWN	'West Adelaide' 10
Tony KRSLOVIC	'Sydney United' 10

Top Six Series

1st Elim Final - 1st leg (at Adelaide Oval)		1st Elim Final - 2nd leg (at Football Park)	
Adelaide City 0		West Adelaide 1	Brenton Hein 87
West Adelaide 1	Jose Iriarte 49	Adelaide City 2	Steve Maxwell 39, 75
2nd Elim Final - 1st leg (at Brandon Park)		2nd Elim Final - 2nd leg (at Parramatta)	
Wollongong City 3	Mike O'Shea 3, o.g.70	Parramatta Eagles 2	Gabriel Mendez 30
	Charlie Yankos 81		Marshall Soper 92
Parramatta Eagles 0		Wollongong City 1	Matthew Horsley
Major Semi Final - 1st leg (at Olympic Park)		Major Semi Final - 2nd leg (at Parramatta)	
South Melbourne 0		Marconi Fairfield 7	Andy Harper 7,34
Marconi Fairfield 1	Steve Corica 67		Jean-Paul de Marigny 9
Minor Semi Final (at Hindmarsh)		Major Semi Final - 2nd leg (at Parramatta)	
Adelaide City 4	Carl Veart 2, 77	South Melbourne 1	Francis Awaritefe 87
	Damian Mori 59	Adelaide City 3	Sergio Melta 3
	Steve Maxwell 70		Damian Mori 26, 74
Wollongong City 0			

Final May 16 (at Parramatta)

Marconi 1 Andy Harper 52pen

Adelaide City 0

Attendance: 13,376 Referee: John Fraser Joe Marston Medal: Milan Ivanovic
 Marconi: Mark Schwarzer, George Jolevski, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Matthew Bingley, Blagoja Kuleski (Ufuk Talay), Ermanno Pelucchi, Kimon Talladira (Glen Johnson), Steve Corica, Ian Gray, Andy Harper, Gary Van Egmond Coach: Frank Arok
 Adelaide City: Robert Zabica, Paul Shillebeer, Tony Vidmar, Milan Ivanovic, Alex Tobin, Carlo Talladira, Damian Mori, Carl Veart, Sergio Melta, Steve Maxwell, Joe Mullen, (Robert Csoboth) Coach: Zoran Matic

1993-94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne Knights	26	16	5	5	59	24	53
South Melbourne	26	13	8	5	39	20	47
Sydney United	26	13	7	6	31	29	46
Marconi Fairfield	26	11	9	6	52	33	42
Adelaide City	26	11	8	7	48	27	41
Sydney Olympic	26	11	8	7	40	37	41
Morwell Falcons	26	11	7	8	31	30	40
Brisbane Strikers	26	10	8	10	28	25	36
West Adelaide	26	10	5	11	41	34	35
Parramatta Eagles	26	8	9	9	27	28	33
Wollongong City	26	6	9	11	24	32	27
Newcastle Breakers (#)	26	5	8	13	30	47	23
*Brunswick Pumas	26	5	4	17	22	57	19
Heidelberg United	26	3	5	18	19	67	14

Newcastle withdrew on the eve of the 1994/95 season due to financial difficulties.

Leading Goalscorers	
Mark VIDUKA	'Melbourne Knights' 16
Ivan KELIC	'Sydney Olympic' 14
Carl VEART	'Adelaide City' 14
Greg BROWN	'West Adelaide' 13
Andrew HARPER	'Marconi' 13
Warren SPINK	'Newcastle' 13
John MARKOVSKI	'Morwell' 11
Francis AWARITEFE	'South Melbourne' 10
Adrian CERVINSKI	'Melbourne Knights' 9

Top Six Series

1st Elim Final - 1st leg (at Hindmarsh)		1st Elim Final - 2nd leg (at Marconi)	
Adelaide City 0		Sydney Utd 0	
Sydney Utd 1	Ante Moric 56	Adelaide City 2	Brad Hassell 55
2nd Elim Final - 1st leg (at Parramatta)		2nd Elim Final - 2nd leg (at Parramatta)	
Sydney Olympic 2	Ivan Kelic 25	Marconi 3	Steve Corica 11
	Brad Maloney 70		Kimon Talladira 30
Marconi 1	Jean-Paul de Marigny 37		Jean-Paul de Marigny 60
Major S F - 1st leg (at Olympic Park)		Major S F - 2nd leg (at Olympic Park)	
South Melbourne 1	Paul Trimboli 81	Melbourne Knights 2	Kris Trajanovski 76
Melbourne Knights 2		Adrian Cervinski 20, 66	Fausto De Amicis 81
Major S F - 2nd leg (at Olympic Park)		South Melbourne 2	
South Melbourne 0	Mark Viduka 10		Francis Awaritefe 80
Minor Semi Final - April 20 (at Parramatta)		Preliminary Final - April 24 (at Olympic Park)	
Marconi 1	Andy Harper 73	South Melbourne 0	Paul Wade 41
Adelaide City 3	Joe Mullen 25	Adelaide City 2	Tony Vidmar 65
	Damian Mori 27, Brad Hassell 66		Brad Hassell 86
Grand Final - May 1 (at Olympic Park)		Preliminary Final - April 24 (at Olympic Park)	
Melbourne Knights 0		South Melbourne 0	
Adelaide City 1	Damian Mori 68	Grand Final - May 1 (at Olympic Park)	
		Adelaide City 1	
Attendance: 13,970 Referee: Richard Lorenc Joe Marston Medal: Alex Tobin (Ad City)		Attendance: 13,970 Referee: Richard Lorenc Joe Marston Medal: Alex Tobin (Ad City)	
Knights : David Miller, David Cervinski, Fausto De Amicis, Vinko Buljubasic, Vlado Vanis, Steve Horvat, Joe Biskic, Andrew Marth, Zoran Trajecevski, Adrian Cervinski, Mark Viduka, . Coach : Mirko Bacic.		Knights : David Miller, David Cervinski, Fausto De Amicis, Vinko Buljubasic, Vlado Vanis, Steve Horvat, Joe Biskic, Andrew Marth, Zoran Trajecevski, Adrian Cervinski, Mark Viduka, . Coach : Mirko Bacic.	
Adelaide City : Robert Zabica, Sergio Melta, Tony Vidmar, Milan Ivanovic, Alex Tobin, Joe Mullen, Carlo Talladira, Damian Mori, Carl Veart, Goran Lozanovski, Brad Hassell. Coach : Zoran Matic		Adelaide City : Robert Zabica, Sergio Melta, Tony Vidmar, Milan Ivanovic, Alex Tobin, Joe Mullen, Carlo Talladira, Damian Mori, Carl Veart, Goran Lozanovski, Brad Hassell. Coach : Zoran Matic	

1994-95

	P	W	D+(S)	L	F	A	Pts
Melbourne Knights	24	16	4 (2)	4	56	28	70
Adelaide City	24	16	4 (1)	4	41	20	69
Sydney United	24	15	5 (3)	4	34	19	68
Morwell Falcons	24	8	11 (4)	5	41	37	47
West Adelaide	24	8	8 (5)	8	28	32	45
South Melbourne Hellas	24	9	5 (3)	10	42	36	44
Brisbane Strikers	24	8	6 (3)	10	34	32	41
Wollongong	24	8	4 (2)	12	39	46	38
Sydney Olympic	24	8	4 (1)	12	27	34	37
Marconi Field	24	6	7 (4)	11	34	43	35
Melbourne Zebras (relegated)	24	6	6 (4)	12	20	37	34
Parramatta Eagles (relegated)	24	7	3 (2)	14	25	34	33
Heidelberg United (relegated)	24	6	3 (1)	15	27	53	28

(S): If scores were level after 90 minutes, a penalty shoot-out was used to decide the winner, who received one bonus point.

The system was abolished after one season.

Leading Goalscorers

Mark VIDUKA 'Melbourne Knights' 18
Damian MORI 'Adelaide City' 17
Ivan KELIC 'South Melbourne' 13
Vaughan COVENY 'Wollongong' 12
Joe SPITERI 'Melbourne Knights' 10
Rod BROWN 'Brisbane Strikers' 9
Slobodan DESPOTOVSKI 'Heidelberg' 9
Chris SLATER 'Brisbane Strikers' 9
Brian BOTHWELL 'Morwell' 8
Con BOUTSIANIS 8

1995-96

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi Fairfield	33	17	9	7	58	35	60
Melbourne Knights	33	17	8	8	50	28	59
UTS Olympic	33	17	8	8	55	41	59
Brisbane Strikers	33	17	6	10	54	35	57
Adelaide City	33	15	9	9	65	40	54
Sydney United	33	14	12	7	47	33	54
West Adelaide	33	16	5	12	49	43	53
South Melbourne Hellas	33	14	4	15	50	56	46
'Canberra Cosmos	33	8	11	14	48	61	35
Morwell Falcons	33	9	8	16	35	65	35
Wollongong City	33	5	5	23	31	63	20
'Newcastle Breakers	33	4	5	24	35	77	17

Top Six Series

Preliminary Semi Final (1)

1st leg - May 5 (at Hindmarsh Stadium)	2nd leg - May 12 (at Leichhardt Oval)
Adelaide City 2	Brad Hassell 6, 47
UTS Olympic 0	UTS Olympic 0
Adelaide City 1	Dino Menillo 72

Preliminary Semi Final (2)

1st leg - May 5 (at Edensor Park)	2nd leg - May 11 (at Suncorp)
Sydney United 2	David Zdrilic 13
Ante Moric 59	Sydney United 2
Brisbane Strikers 0	Frank Farina 43

Major Semi Final

1st leg - May 5 (at Somers St)	2nd leg - May 11 (at Marconi Stadium)
Melbourne Knights 1	Adrian Cervinski 61
Marconi Fairfield 0	Eric Hristodoulou 52

Minor Semi Final

May 15 (at Hindmarsh Stadium)	Preliminary Final
Adelaide City 1	May 19 (at Parramatta Stadium)
Sydney United 0	Bradley Armour 44
Marconi Fairfield 4	Marconi Fairfield 4
Adelaide City 1	Brendan Renaud 3

Grand Final - May 26 (at Olympic Park)	Grand Final - May 26 (at Olympic Park)
Melbourne Knights 2	Andrew Marth 58, Adrian Cervinski 76
Marconi Fairfield 1	Andy Harper 78
Attendance: 14,258	Referee: Eddie Lennie Joe Marston Medal: Andrew Marth
Melbourne Knights: Vilson Knezevic, Fausto De Amicis, David Cervinski, Andrew Marth, Zoran Markovski, Joe Simunic, Lubo Lapsansky, Ante Kovacevic (Vinko Buljubasic), John Markovski (Dragi Nastevski), Adrian Cervinski, Tom Podeljak (Joe Bacak) Coach: Ian Dobson	
Marconi Fairfield: Bob Catlin, Gary Van Egmond (John Angelucci), Robbie Stanton, Andy Harper, Matthew Bingley, Eric Hristodoulou, Brad Maloney, Brendan Renaud, Dominic Longo, Paul Souris, Vlado Zoric Coach: Manfred Schaefer	

1996-97

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney United Pumas	26	17	5	4	67	33	56
Brisbane Strikers	26	15	2	9	55	40	47
South Melbourne Lakers	26	14	4	8	39	25	46
Adelaide City Zebras	26	11	10	5	32	22	43
Marconi Fairfield Stallions	26	12	4	10	41	37	40
Melbourne Knights	26	11	6	9	36	32	39
*Perth Glory	26	11	5	10	48	41	38
West Adelaide Sharks	26	10	3	13	39	51	33
UTS Olympic	26	8	8	10	41	46	32
Wollongong Wolves	26	8	8	10	42	48	32
Newcastle Breakers	26	7	9	10	40	46	30
Gippsland Falcons	26	8	6	12	33	41	30
*Collingwood Warriors (relegated)	26	6	9	11	32	44	27
Canberra Cosmos	26	2	5	19	30	69	11

Leading Goalscorers							
David ZDRILIC	'Sydney United'	21					
Ante MILICIC	'Sydney United'	18					
Slobodan DESPOTOVSKI	'Perth Glory'	14					
Adrian CERVINSKI	'Melbourne Knights'	12					
Vas KALOGERAKOS	'Perth Glory'	12					
Norman TOME	'Sydney Olympic'	12					
Rod BROWN	'Brisbane'	11					
Frank FARINA	'Brisbane'	11					
Hamilton THORP	'Adelaide Sharks'	11					

Top Six Series

1st Elim Final - 1st leg, April 27		2nd leg, May 4	
Melbourne Knights 1	Adrian Cervinski 82	South Melbourne 3	Michael Curcija 1, 25
South Melbourne 4	Michael Curcija 48		Steve Panopoulos 33
Vaughan Covery 53		Melbourne Knights 0	
Steve Panopoulos 60 (pen)	(pen)	(South Melb won 7-1 on aggregate)	Paul Trimboli 88

2nd Elim. Final - 1st leg, April 26		2nd leg, May 4	
Marconi Fairfield 3	Craig Foster 17	Adelaide City 4	Dino Menillo 35
	Sean Babic 66		Andy Harper 38og
	Andy Harper 70		Michael Brooks 48

Adelaide City 0	Marconi Fairfield 0	(*after extra time, Adelaide City won 4-3 on aggregate)
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Major Semi Final - 1st leg, May 3		2nd leg, May 11	
Brisbane Strikers 1	Sean Cranney 63	Sydney United 2	Jason Culina 24
Sydney United 0			Kresimir Marusic 35
	Brisbane Strikers 1		Wayne Knipe 77

Minor Semi Final, May 11		Preliminary Final, May 18	
South Melbourne 1	Con Blatsis 91	Sydney United 1	Ante Milicic 66
Adelaide City 0		South Melbourne 0	

Grand Final, May 25 (at Suncorp Stadium)
 Brisbane Strikers 2 Frank Farina 47, Rod Brown 68
 Sydney United 0
 Attendance: 40,446 Referee: Simon Micallef Joe Marston Medal: Alan Hunter (Brisbane)
 Brisbane: Clint Bolton, Craig Williams, Danny Wright, Glenn Gwynne (Matt Bell), Alan Hunter, Sean Cranney, Chay Howe (Jeremy Harris), Kasey Wehrman, Troy Cranney, Frank Farina (Reece Tollenaere), Rod Brown. Coach: Frank Farina
 Sydney: Zeljko Kalac, Richard Plesa, Mark Babic, Velimir Kupresak, Robert Trajkovski (Jason Culina), Paul Bilokapic, Ante Moric, Aytec Genc, Kresimir Marusic, David Zdrilic, Ante Milicic. Coach: Branko Culina

1997-98

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	26	13	9	4	56	41	48
*Carlton	26	12	9	5	44	24	45
Adelaide City	26	13	4	9	45	30	43
Sydney United	26	11	10	5	37	26	43
Marconi Fairfield	26	12	7	7	33	25	43
Wollongong	26	3	10	51	33	42	
Melbourne Knights	26	11	6	9	37	35	39
Perth Glory	26	10	6	10	35	40	36
UTS Olympic	26	10	5	11	37	43	35
Adelaide Sharks	26	10	4	12	32	38	34
Gippsland Falcons	26	8	7	11	28	36	31
Brisbane Strikers	26	6	5	15	23	40	23
Newcastle Breakers	26	4	9	13	30	50	21
Canberra Cosmos	26	3	8	15	29	56	17

The 97/98 Grand Final was the first to be played at night.

Top Six Series

1st Elim Final - 1st leg - (at Brandon Park)		1st Elim Final - 2nd leg - (at Hindmarsh)	
Wollongong 3	Tony Perinich 56	Adelaide City 2	Michael Brooks 17
	Kosta Salapasis 80, 84		Nick Sabljak 80
Adelaide City 0		Wollongong 2	
		Alvin Ceccoli 56	Kosta Salapasis 75

2nd Elim Final - 1st leg - (at Marconi)		2nd Elim Final - 2nd leg - (at Parramatta)	
Marconi 1	Francis Awaritefe 26	Sydney Utd 0	Marconi 1
			Francis Awaritefe 71

Major Semi Final - 1st leg - (at Optus Oval)		Major Semi Final - 2nd leg - (at B J S)	
Carlton 1	John Markovski 89	South Melbourne 1	Goran Lozanovski 13
South Melbourne 2	Paul Trimboli 24,	Carlton 0	John Anastasiadis 34

Minor Semi Final - (at Parramatta)		Preliminary Final - (at Olympic Park)	
Marconi 2	Francis Awaritefe 62	Carlton 1	Marco Bresciano 92
	Brad Maloney 67	Marconi 0	Alvin Ceccoli 72

Grand Final - Saturday May 16 (at Olympic Park)
 South Melbourne 2 John Anastasiadis 8, Con Boutsianis 88
 Carlton 1 Marcus Stergiopoulos 78
 Attendance: 15,706 Referee: Eugene Brazzale Joe Marston Medal: Fausto De Amicis
 South Melbourne: Michael Petkovic, Steve Iosifidis, Fausto De Amicis, Con Blatsis David Clarkson, Paul Trimboli, Bill Damianos, Goran Lozanovski (Vaughan Covery) Tansel Baser, John Anastasiadis (Con Boutsianis) Coach: Angelo Postecoglou Carlton: Dean Anastasiadis, Robert Trajkovski, Lubo Lapsansky, Kresimir Marusic Simon Colosimo, Sean Douglas, Andrew Vlahos (Adrian Cervinski), John Markovski David Cervinski (Marcus Stergiopoulos), Mark Atkinson, Marco Bresciano Coach: Eddie Krncevic

1998 - 99

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney United	28	18	4	6	53	33	58
South Melbourne	28	17	6	5	50	26	57
Perth Glory	28	16	5	7	62	37	53
Marconi Fairfield	28	15	3	10	53	47	48
Northern Spirit	28	14	4	10	36	35	46
Adelaide City	28	13	6	9	39	26	45
Sydney Olympic	28	12	7	9	46	36	43
Newcastle Breakers	28	11	7	10	29	33	40
Brisbane Strikers	28	11	6	11	41	47	39
Wollongong Wolves	28	8	8	12	45	52	32
Carlton SC	28	9	4	15	47	47	31
Melbourne Knights	28	8	5	15	32	43	29
Adelaide Sharks	28	7	6	15	36	46	27
Gippsland Falcons	28	5	10	13	17	44	25
Canberra Cosmos	28	4	3	21	21	55	15

Leading Goalscorers	
Pablo CARDOZO	18
'Sydney Olympic'	18
Brad MALONEY	16
'Marconi'	16
Mile STERJOVSKI	16
'Sydney United'	16
Damian MORI	14
'Adelaide City'	14
Vaughan COVENY	13
'South Melbourne'	13
Alex MOREIRA	12
'Carlton'	12
Michael CURCIJA	12
'South Melbourne'	12
Con BOUTSIANIS	11
'Perth Glory'	11
John MARKOVSKI	11
'Perth Glory'	11
Francis AWARITEFE	10
'Marconi'	10

Top Six Series

Elim Final - 1st leg - May 2	Elim Final - 2nd leg - May 8
Adelaide City 0	Perth Glory 2
Perth Glory 0	Adelaide City 1
Elim Final - 1st leg - April 30	Elim Final - 2nd leg - May 9
Northern Spirit 0	Marconi Fairfield 2
Marconi Fairfield 0	Mike Smith 45
	Sean Babic 48
	Northern Spirit 1
	Graham Arnold 82
Major Semi Final - 1st leg - May 9	Major Semi Final - 2nd leg - May 16
South Melbourne 2	Michael Curcija 45
	Sydney United 0
	South Melbourne 0
Sydney United 1	Richard Plesa 72
Minor Semi Final - May 15	Preliminary Final - May 23
Perth Glory 1	og 21 (Buddy Farah)
Marconi Fairfield 0	Sydney United 2
	Mile Sterjovski 13
	Steve Berry 70
	Perth Glory 1
	Con Boutsianis 83

Grand Final - May 30 (Olympic Park)
 South Melbourne 3 Paul Trimballi 53, John Anastasiadis 62, 87
 Sydney United 2 Mile Sterjovski 13, Danny Townsend 90
 Attendance: 15,194 Referee: Simon Micallef Joe Marston Medal: Goran Lozanovski
St Melbourne: Michael Petkovic, Steve Iosifidis, Fausto De Amicis, Nick Orlic, Con Blatsis, David Clarkson, Steve Panopoulos, Goran Lozanovski (Jim Tsekiris), Paul Trimballi (George Goutziouls), Vaughan Coveny, Michael Curcija (John Anastasiadis). Coach: Angie Postecoglou
Sydney United: Mike Gibson, David Barrett, Velimir Kupresak, Richard Plesa, Joe Vrkic, Michael Santalab (Danny Townsend), Peter Bennett, Steve Berry, Jacob Burns, Mile Sterjovski, Nathan Day (Joel Griffiths). Coach: David Mitchell

Notes

NSL Cup Finals - 1977 - 1997

1977 - Oct 14 (in Brisbane)
 Brisbane City 1 Peter Tokesi 60
 Marconi 1 Peter Sharne 40
 Brisbane City won 5-3 on penalties
 Attendance: 8,658

1978 - Oct 10 (in Brisbane)
 Brisbane City 2 Barry Kelso 29,
 Frank Pimblett 77
 Adelaide City 1 Zoran Matic 31
 Attendance: 5,276

1979 - Sept 30 (in Adelaide)
 Adelaide City 3 John Nyskohus 54, 76
 Bugsy Nyskohus 65
 St George 2 Steve O'Connor 21
 John O'Shea 48
 Attendance: 8,654

1980 - Oct 4 (in Melbourne)
 Heidelberg 0
 Marconi 0
 Attendance: 6,388

Replay - Oct 15 (in Sydney)
 Marconi 3 Gary Byrne 17 (pen),
 Eddie Krnceanic 64
 Peter Sharne 87
 Heidelberg 0
 Attendance: 5,179

1981 (at Bruce Stadium)
 Brisbane Lions 3 Calvin Daunt,
 Bob Ferris
 Billy Williamson
 West Adelaide Hellas 1 Shraga Topaz

1982 (at Olympic Park)
 APIA-Leichhardt 2 Jim McBreen,
 Terry Butler
 Heidelberg 1 Jim Campbell
 Attendance: Approx 5,000
 Ref: Don Campbell

1983 - 1st leg (at St George Stadium)
 Sydney Olympic 1 Terry Patalis
 Heidelberg 0
 Attendance: 6420

2nd leg (at Olympic Park)
 Heidelberg 0
 Sydney Olympic 1 Terry Patalis
 Attendance: 6000

1984 (at Olympic Park)
 Melbourne Croatia 0
 Newcastle Rosebud 1 Derek Todd 29
 Attendance: 4000

1985 (at St George Stadium, Sydney)
 Sydney Olympic 2 Marshall Soper 81
 Peter Raskopoulos 83
 Preston-Makedonia 1 Gary Cole 12
 Att: 6,147
 Ref: Don Campbell

1986 (at Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide)
 Sydney City Hakoah 3 John Kosmina 61
 Frank Farina 114, 118
 Adelaide Hellas 2 Hristodoulou 49, 112
 Att: 3,200 Ref: Stewart Mellings

1987 - 1st leg Oct 14, (St George Stad.)
 Sydney Croatia 1 Robbie Slater 85
 South Melbourne 0
 Attendance: 3,845

2nd leg (Oct 18, Olympic Park)
 South Melbourne 0
 Sydney Croatia 1 Graham Arnold
 Attendance: 4,000
 Sydney Croatia won 2-0 on aggregate

1988 - August (at Marconi Stadium)
 Apia Leichhardt 0
 Brunswick Juventus 0
 Apia won 5-3 on penalties
 Attendance: 2200

1989 (at Hindmarsh)
 Adelaide City 2
 Sydney Olympic 0
 Attendance: 8000

1989/90
 South Melbourne 4
 Sydney Olympic 1
 Attendance: 8790

90/91 (at Marconi Stadium)
 Parramatta Eagles 1 Greg Brown
 Preston 0

1991/92 - April 5
 Adelaide City 2 Joe Mullen 7
 Marconi 1 Tony Vidmar 81
 Man of the Match: Joe Mullen (Ad City)
 Attendance: 3,102
 Referee: Gordon Dunster

1992/93 - April 18 (at Marconi)
 Parramatta Eagles 1 Michael Reda 79
 Heidelberg Utd 2 Alan Scott 2
 George Silfkas 86
 Attendance: 2,596
 Referee: Rob Davies

1993/94 - Oct 17 (at Marconi Stadium)
 Sydney United 0
 Parramatta Eagles 2
 Velimir Kupresak o.g. 42,
 Brendan Renaud 85
 Attendance: 4,156
 Referee: Eugene Brazzae

1994/95 (at Olympic Park)
 Melbourne Knights 6 Joe Spiteri 32,70
 Steve Horvat 52,
 Joe Biskic 81,
 Mark Viduka 86,87
 Heidelberg Utd 0
 Attendance: 5,041
 Referee: Eugene Brazzae

1995/96 (at Bob Jane Stadium)
 South Melbourne 3 Vaughan Coveney 22, 75,
 Steve Panopoulos 36 (pen)
 Newcastle Breakers 1 Steve Hickman 50
 Attendance: 3,457
 Referee: Simon Micallef

1996/97 - October 6, 1996
 Collingwood Warriors 1 Con Boutsianis 47
 Marconi 0
 Attendance: 2,327
 Referee: Eugene Brazzae

The Future?
 Administrators, clubs and fans must all share the blame over the demise of the national cup competition. The administrators never gave it any sense of purpose, the clubs treated it as little more than friendly / warm-up / trial matches, and the fans reacted accordingly.

The format, like that of the league, has been constantly changed. Clubs from outside the NSL have competed, while there have also been occasions when NSL clubs haven't competed in the cup.

Yet almost everybody involved in soccer wants to see an 'English FA Cup style' knockout competition. If nothing else, it would educate the public that there are some very good soccer teams operating outside the national league. The opportunities of the 'smaller' clubs to earn some of the spotlight have been further diminished in recent years with the axing of the (NSW) Waratah Cup and the (Victorian) Dockerty Cup.

It is only a matter of time before a major national cup competition is re-introduced. Everybody wants a national cup, it just seems a matter of giving it the respect it warrants by finding a permanent date and venue for the final. And a generous sponsor, of course...

NSL Player of the Year

Year	Winner
1977	Jimmy Rooney (Marconi)
1978	Ken Boden (Newcastle)
1979	Ivo Prskalo (Marconi)
1980	Jim Hermitson (Brisbane Lions)
1981	Bobby Russell (Adelaide City)
1982	Peter Katholos (Sydney Olympic)
1983	Joe Watson (Sydney City)
1984	Sergio Mella (Adelaide City)
1985	Graham Honeyman (West Ad) * Jim Patikas (Sydney Croatia)
1986	Bobby Russell (St Melbourne) * Graham Arnold (Syd Croatia)
1987	Andrew Zinni (Brunswick) * Frank Farina (Marconi)
1988	Paul Wade (South Melbourne) * Frank Farina (Marconi)
1989	Zlatko Nastevski (Marconi)
89/90	Veljko Adzic (Melbourne Knights)
90/91	Milan Ivanovic (Adelaide City)
91/92	Josip Biskic (Melbourne Knights)
92/93	Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)

*Explanatory note required (leave 2 lines)

1993/94 Player of the Year

Mark Viduka (Melb Knights)	176
Andrew Marth (Melb Knights)	120
Josip Biskic (Melb Knights)	87

1994/95 Player of the Year

Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights)	151
Tony Popovic (Sydney United)	89
Milan Ivanovic (Adelaide City)	72

1995/96 Player of the Year

Damian Mori (Adelaide City)	350
Frank Farina (Brisbane)	164
Craig Foster (Adelaide City)	91

1996/97 Player of the Year

Kresimir Marusic (Sydney United)	214
Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)	197
Ante Milicic (Sydney United)	192

1997/98 Player of the Year

Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)	
Damian Mori (Adelaide City)	
Brett Emerton (UTS Olympic)	

1998/99 Player of the Year**Under 21 Player of the Year**

Year	Winner
1977	John Kosmina (West Adelaide)
1978	Ian Souness (Sydney Hakoah)
1979	Eddie Krcic (Marconi)
1980	John Spanos (Sydney Hakoah)
1981	David Mitchell (Adelaide City)
1982	David Lowe (Newcastle)
1983	Oscar Crino (South Melbourne)
1984	Tony Franken (Canberra City)
1985	Alan Hunter (Brisbane Lions)
1986	Ernie Tapai (Footscray JUST)
1987	John Markovski (Sunshine GC)
1988	Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)
1989	Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)
89/90	Paul Okon (Marconi)
90/91	Paul Okon (Marconi)
91/92	Kevin Muscat (Heidelberg)
92/93	Steve Corica (Marconi)

1993/94 U/21 Player of the Year

Mark Viduka (Melb Knights)	394
Goran Lozanovski (Adelaide City)	
Adrian Cervinski (Melb Knights)	

1994/95 U/21 Player of the Year

Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights)	248
Robert Enes (Melbourne Zebras)	79
Clint Bolton (Brisbane)	69

1995/96 U/21 Player of the Year

Jim Teekens (West Adelaide)	306
Robert Enes (Sydney United)	142
Tom Podeljak (Melbourne Knights)	90

1996/97 U/21 Player of the Year

Kasey Wehrman (Brisbane)	234
Brett Emerton (UTS Olympic)	143
Tom Podeljak (Melbourne Knights)	101

1997/98 U/21 Player of the Year

Brett Emerton (UTS Olympic)	
Simon Colosimo (Carlton)	
Bill Damianos (South Melbourne)	

1998/99 U/21 Player of the Year**Goalkeeper of the Year**

1991/92	Robert Zubica (Adelaide City)
1992/93	Mark Schwarzer (Marconi)
1993/94	Zejko Kalac (Sydney Utd) 232
	Steve Mautone (Morwell) 168
	Michael Gibson (Sydney Olympic) 147
1994/95	Zejko Kalac (Sydney United)
	Clint Bolton (Brisbane)
1995/96	Frank Juric (Melbourne Knights) 244
	Brett Hughes (Wollongong) 237
	Jason Petkovic (Adelaide City) 184
1996/97	Jason Petkovic (Adelaide City) 330
	Michael Petkovic (St Melbourne) 275
	Zejko Kalac (Sydney United) 205
1997/98	Jason Petkovic (Adelaide City)
	Michael Petkovic (South Melbourne)
	Dean Anastasiadis (Carlton)

Referee of the Year

1977	No Award
1978	Peter Rampley
1979	Tony Boskovic
1980	Peter Rampley
1981	Tim Davies
1982	Tony Boskovic
1983	Stuart Mellings
1984	Doug Rennie
1985	Donald Campbell
1986	Donald Campbell
1987	Donald Campbell
1988	Chris Bambridge
1989	Jim Reeves
1989/90	John Santa Isabel
1990/91	Chris Bambridge
1991/92	John Connell
1992/93	Eugene Brazzale
1993/94	Richard Lorenc
1994/95	Eddie Lennie
1995/96	Eddie Lennie
1996/97	Simon Micallef
1997/98	Eugene Brazzale
1998/99	

Coach of the Year

Year	Winner
1977	Rale Rasic (Marconi)
1978	Gerry Chaldi (Sydney Hakoah)
1979	Les Scheinflug (Marconi)
1980	John Margaritis (South Melbourne)
1981	Eddie Thomson (Sydney Hakoah)
1982	Frank Arok (St George)
1983	Frank Arok (St George)
1984	Eddie Thomson (Sydney City)
1985	Eddie Thomson (Sydney City)
1986	Dragoslav Sekularac (Footscray JUST)
1987	Rale Rasic (Apia Leichhardt)
1988	Brian Garvey (South Melbourne)
1989	Berti Mariani (Marconi)
89/90	Berti Mariani (Marconi)
90/91	Zoran Matic (Adelaide City)
91/92	David Ratcliffe (Wollongong)
92/93	Jim Pyrgolios (South Melbourne)
1993/94	Mirko Bazic (Melb Knights) 28
	Manfred Schaefer (Sydney Utd) 19
	Bobby McLaughlin (Morwell) 14
1994/95	Zoran Matic (Adelaide City) 16
	Mirko Bazic (Melbourne Knights) 15
	Branko Culina (Sydney United) 11
1995/96	John Perin (Adelaide City) 19
	Manfred Schaefer (Marconi) 17
	David Ratcliffe (UTS Olympic) 12
1996/97	Branko Culina (Sydney United) 26
	Frank Farina (Brisbane) 14
	Gary Marocchi (Perth Glory) 13
1997/98	Angie Postecoglou (St Melbourne)
	Nick Theodoropoulos (Wollongong)
	David Mitchell (Sydney United)
1998/99	

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Thanks for making it this far. We hope you have enjoyed the journey, and happily invite contributions for what will almost certainly be a bigger, brighter effort in 2000.

In the meantime, let's see YOU at an NSL ground next season!

Any more questions?
OzSoccer
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